

SALLY COSTELLA

Senate Candidate for Tasmania

THE CLIMATE SCEPTICS PARTY

sallycostella[REDACTED].com costella@[REDACTED]



Dr. [REDACTED]

BY EMAIL: [REDACTED]

1 August 2010

Re: Dying With Dignity

Dear Dr. [REDACTED],

Thank you for your two emails of 31 July 2010, enquiring how I would vote on legislation dealing with the issues of dying with dignity, pregnancy termination, and same-sex marriage.

The Climate Sceptics Party does not have a predetermined policy on any of the three issues you raise. In such cases, candidates from our Party that are successful in being elected to Parliament have three guiding principles:

1. Obtain the best possible scientific evidence.
2. Ensure that the views of ordinary Australians are sought and heeded.
3. Allow our Members of Parliament to facilitate or lead the public debate, regardless of any differences of opinion they may have.

On the issues of dying with dignity and pregnancy termination, of utmost importance is the need to protect the rights of all Australians, demanding the highest level of safeguards possible. I do not believe that any Senator should commit to supporting any proposed Bill until checking that it meets such high standards.

Having said that, I am happy to provide my own personal opinions on the three issues you raise. As noted above, these do not necessarily represent the views of The Climate Sceptics Party or any of its endorsed candidates.

On the issue of dying with dignity, I am firmly in favour of legislation that would provide that right to all Australians, with a stringent framework of safeguards. I am aware that the *Report on the Dying with Dignity Bill 2009 (Tas)* found that that Bill did not fulfil these requirements. If elected as a Senator for Tasmania, I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to any similar Bill introduced into the Federal Parliament.

On the issue of pregnancy termination, I am in favour of the *Abortion Law Reform Act 2008 (Vic)*, and would, if elected as a Senator for Tasmania, welcome the opportunity to contribute to any similar Bill introduced into the Federal Parliament.

On the issue of same-sex marriages, I am firmly in favour of removing all discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, and would, if elected as a Senator for Tasmania, welcome the opportunity to contribute to parliamentary debate when the *Marriage Equality Amendment Bill* is reintroduced to the Federal Parliament.

Again, I thank you for seeking my views on these important issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of Sally Costella.

Sally Costella